

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-27. (Cancelled).

28. (Previously Presented) An adjusting device for beds, mattresses, armchairs and the like, comprising support elements extending at an angle to the adjusting direction on both sides, and jointly spanning a support plane, and at least one drive device for modifying the inclination of the support plane with at least one pivotable raising lever, wherein said at least one pivotable raising lever is provided with several bar members, separately pivotable differently from the pivotable raising lever.

29. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28 wherein the bar members form a link chain.

30. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the bar members are longitudinally and transversely displaceable relative to and by the pivotable raising lever.

31. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein at least one of the bar members comprises at least one longitudinal and transverse guide.

32. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the bar members are pivotable in differing rotational senses relative to one another by use of the pivoting of the pivotable raising lever.

33. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein, in order to pivot at least one of the bar member(s), a sliding link operative between the latter and the pivotable raising lever is provided.

34. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein at least one of the bar members is an integral component of a device for differing pivoting of the bar members relative to raising the lever.

35. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the bar members constitute a casing.

36. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the bar members are divided in two.

37. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the pivotable raising lever is disposed inside bar members.

38. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the pivotable raising lever is constructed as a cantilever and is pivotably seated on a middle or base part of the adjusting device.

39. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 28, wherein the device further comprises a jamming protection assembly disposed between at least two adjacent bar members.

40. (Previously Presented) An adjusting device for beds, mattresses, armchairs and the like, comprising bar members extending at an angle to the adjusting direction on both sides, jointly spanning a support plane, with at least one drive device for modifying the inclination of the support plane, in which the bar members form a link chain, wherein the bar members jointly house, an inherently rigid, pivotable raising lever serving for mutual adjustment of the bar members.

41. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the pivotable bar members form a link chain.

42. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the bar members are longitudinally and transversely displaceable relative to and by the pivotable raising lever.

43. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein at least one of the bar members comprises at least one longitudinal and transverse guide.

44. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the bar members are pivotable in differing rotational senses relative to one another by use of the pivoting of the pivotable raising lever.

45. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein in order to pivot at least one of the bar member(s), a sliding link operative between the latter and the pivotable raising lever is provided.

46. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein at least one of the bar members is an integral component of a device for differing pivoting of the bar members relative to the raising lever.

47. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the bar members constitute a casing.

48. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the bar members are divided in two.

49. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the pivotable raising lever is guided inside bar members.

50. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the raising lever is constructed as a cantilever and is pivotably seated on a middle or base part of the adjusting device.

51. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 40, wherein the device further comprises a jamming protection means provided between at least two adjacent bar members.

52. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device for beds, mattresses, armchairs or the like, according to claim 40 further comprising a plurality of drive devices for modifying the inclination of the support plane, in which the bar members form a head part, a foot part and a middle part, each of two bar members defining the middle part houses a pair of electric motors with output shafts extending essentially parallel to adjacent bar members and arranged in a plane extending essentially through the bar members.

53. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 52, wherein bar members housing the two electric motors include casings exceeding the width of the rest of the bar.

54. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 52, wherein the two electric motors of the bar members on opposite sides are engaged by synchronization, torsion tubes.

55. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 52, wherein the pivoting raising levers of bar members are arranged parallel and offset to the output shafts of electric motors.

56. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 52, wherein two raising levers associated with the bars of the head part or the foot part are jointly pivotable by use of a torsion tube and are each connected at their terminal areas on the torsion tube side to drive transfer components for electric motors to provide a pivot drive.

57. (Previously Presented) An adjustable support device for mattresses, or cushions, beds, armchairs and the like, comprising pivotable bars with support elements extending between the bars, spanning a support plane, wherein the pivotable bars are each formed of at least one inherently rigid raising lever which carries a link chain of support element bearing members pivotable relative to one another.

58. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the pivotable bar members are longitudinally and transversely displaceable relative to and by the raising lever.

59. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein at least one of the pivotable bar members comprises at least one longitudinal and transverse guide.

60. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the bar members are pivotable in differing rotational senses relative to one another by use of the raising lever.

61. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein, in order to pivot at least one of the bar member(s), a sliding link operative between the latter and the pivotable raising lever is provided.

62. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein at least one of the bar members is an integral component of a device for differing pivoting of the bar members relative to the raising lever.

63. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the pivotable bar members constitute a casing.

64. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the pivotable bar members are divided in two.

65. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the raising lever is guided inside bar members.

66. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the raising lever is constructed as a cantilever and is pivotably seated on a middle or base part of the adjusting device.

67. (Previously Presented) The adjusting device according to claim 57, wherein the device further comprises a jamming protection assembly provided between at least two adjacent bar members.

68. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The adjusting device ~~for beds, mattresses, armchairs or the like, comprising bar members extending at either side at an angle to the adjusting direction, jointly spanning a support plane formed of support elements, with at least one drive device for modifying the inclination of the support device, in which the bar members form a link chain, and according to claim 40~~ wherein one of the bar members comprises a driven extensible bracing element for bracing the bar member against a base surface.

69. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 68, wherein the bar member comprising the bracing element comprises a rocker that transmits a drive force for extension/retraction motion.

70. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 69, wherein the rocker is arranged inside bar members comprising the bracing element.

71. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 68, further comprising a driven raising lever that raises and/or lowers one end of the bar member comprising the bracing element.

72. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 71, wherein the raising lever forcibly pivots the rocker during the pivoting of the raising lever.

73. (Withdrawn) The adjusting device according to claim 68, wherein the extensible bracing element is constructed as a knee lever with rigid legs, the knee lever being pivotably seated relative to bar member housing it about a knee lever joint.